

(218) 213-2642 | me@terresahardaway.com | terresamoses.com

TERRESA MOSES

Curriculum Vitæ

ABOUT

Cover Letter
About Me
Teaching Philosophy

VITÆ

Professional Career
Teaching Career
Education
Affiliations
Accolades
References

ABOUT

Cover Letter

About Me

Teaching Philosophy

I am currently searching for an organization which will not only provide me the chance to master new skills and concepts, but also provide me the opportunity to apply my own skill set and realize my ambitions. My ability to establish and maintain an effective and professional rapport with individuals of diverse backgrounds is enhanced by my well-honed communication skills.

My professional experience began during my college undergraduate experience in 2007 where I was selected to be the lead designer for Couture by Alana, Inc., a start up fashion company. In May of 2008, I completed my Bachelor of Fine Arts in Fashion Design with a minor in African American Studies at the University of North Texas. In 2009, I was selected to be a part of the apparel and graphic design department at MTC Marketing, Inc. (d.b.a. RR Designs, Co.) in Dallas, Texas. I lead the women's and children's sportswear categories for licensed product on behalf of NFL, NHL, NCAA, Betty Boop, Bratz and Marvel. As I continued with the company, I was trained to create all of the promotional and advertising materials; catalogs, booth imagery, email blasts and websites. In addition to designing for RR Designs, I used my skills to complete freelance projects that included businesses such as dentists' offices, call centers, restaurants, and non-profits organizations. This work span the gamut from print to web design.

As my professional design career continued to evolve, I expanded my ongoing community outreach efforts by teaching to children, youth and adults in Dallas county. It was at this time that I found a new love and purpose for my life, which involved enlightening those seeking knowledge to advance their careers and characters while simultaneously advancing my own.

I completed my Master of Fine Arts in Design with a concentration in Design Research and a minor in Anthropology from the University of North Texas in December 2015. During the 2015-2016 school year, I helped to positively affect the lives of young men and women interested in design as an educator in the University of North Texas' College of Visual Arts and Design, Communication Design and Fashion Design Areas. At this same time, I was the Graphic Design Program Lead at Brown Mackie College, D/FW for non-traditional students with an emphasis on online learning. I am currently an Assistant Professor of Graphic Design in the Department of Art & Design at the University of Minnesota Duluth.

You will find my vitæ attached for your careful consideration and review. I look forward to the opportunity to meet with you in the near future.

Thank you.

ABOUT

Cover Letter

About Me

Teaching Philosophy

Design Educator

I began teaching children, youth and adults within community organizations in Dallas county in 2010. It was during my volunteer teaching experience that I learned educating wasn't just a benefit to the learners, but to the teacher as well. This was an untapped gift that I wanted to explore further and fueled my strong decision to pursue my graduate degree to educate myself on pedagogic theories and methods to become an educator that would leave a legacy with their students.

Design Researcher

As a design researcher, I am able to use my passion for design and its research methodologies to identify and solve real world problems. My thesis, Project Naptural (nappy+natural), is an applied research project that aspires to influence decision making within the Black community. This project is a socio-cultural initiative designed to initiate and sustain positive change in how and why many Black women form and frame perceptions about their identities by choosing to wear their hair in its naturally afro-textured state. Additionally, this project seeks to enlighten these women about how wearing particular naptural hair styles can signify and visually communicate specific meanings they may be unaware of. I hope to successfully use communication design to enlighten, connect and empower Black women to make healthy life choices.

My research interests focus on community building for marginalized peoples and safe spaces where they are represented and their voices are heard. I am also very passionate about tackling implicit biases and changing cultural narratives about people of color. I am currently working on a project with a colleague of mine called Racism Untaught that looks at the how design professors utilize design research to critically assess anti-racist concepts and solve racialized design problems within project-based learning environments. We are using both quantitative and qualitative research methods and theories to create create a toolkit that both faculty and students can use to solve racialized design problems.

Creative Director & Designer

I use design elements and techniques such as; typography, color theory, layout, image preparation, and branding to communicate to the world around us. I have had the opportunity to be a part of innovative brands and projects from print, film and interactive design. As the Creative Director of Blackbird Revolt, I use these techniques to focus on projects that further social and environmental justice.

Fashion Designer

Fashion and styling have always been a passion of mine. My passion influenced my decision to study fashion design as an undergraduate and start the apparel line of Blackbird Revolt. My love for fashion grew into a polished technical skill that I have now used professionally for over eight years.

ABOUT

Cover Letter

About Me

Teaching Philosophy

I believe that learning is exciting. The moment when a student catches on to a new skill or concept brings joy to my life. Not only that, but I never stop learning from my students. I learn something new from them every day. This is why I have the energy that I do in all of my learning environments. I bring an excitement to the classroom that helps motivate and encourage my students to construct knowledge. With that stated, I do believe that learning is largely dependent on the student being receptive to the material, but that it is ultimately the obligation of the instructor to provide an environment where learning happens with ease, and the motivation to learn is actively encouraged. I also believe that the student's learning environment lives and evolves inside and outside of the classroom.

Concepts brought to life in a classroom lesson should become even more apparent to the student during their everyday activities. I think that educators are not only teaching students new knowledge but ways in which the students can learn. In my opinion, real world applications are so important to the learning experiences because it is what makes the material being taught actually stick in the students' minds. This is why I believe that actively mentoring the relationship between the instructor and the student is one of great importance. Establishing mutual respect and genuine interest in the students' life brings a level of comfort in the classroom that allows the student to learn from mistakes, pose viable questions, and create numerous learning opportunities. This also provides the instructor the ability to discover examples that can be applied to achieve the learning objectives that most closely relate with the interests of the students.

I am determined to empower my students in ways that allow them to make their own choices, not only regarding design, but in their own lives. I like to think of myself as a seed planter – unaware of how the small plants that leave my classroom will grow as they mature. A good teacher is someone who can pass along knowledge that is applicable throughout all facets of life, while simultaneously creating an eagerness to learn even more than they know. I want to push my students to become all that they can be, and then, push them even more. I truly believe that our students will make the world we live in a better place, so I am unafraid of talking about issues of race, gender, sexuality, and other forms of identify that can marginalize our communities. These, sometimes hard topics, can be talked about in a way that empowers students to change and learn more effectively to enable them to make more diverse choices as their lives evolve.

VITÆ

Professional Career

Teaching Career

Education

Affiliations

Accolades

References

January 2017 – Present

Blackbird Revolt

Creative Director & Co-Founder

Promoting social change through conscious creativity. Collaborate with a variety of non-profits to help promote messages centered around social and environmental justice.

Summer 2014

Design Researcher

Northlake College, Irving

Collaborated with the Division of Mathematics & Science to create a curriculum layout publication with a focus using Design Thinking as the primary method for problem solving called Real World Math. The ideology will be used within developmental math, intermediate and college-level algebra.

January 2012 – October 2015

Operations Developer & Designer

Advertising Matters D.B.A., "We Got Spirit Tees," Fort Worth

Use anthropological methods to create the standardized production procedures for the company. Design catalogs, fliers, brochures and signage. Headed all front-end web development.

March 2010 – June 2015

Designer & Financial Advisor

Transformation Ministries, Irving

Create and design all published promotional material including print, web, video recordings and social media. I assist in the daily functioning of the organization, event planning and financial advising. I also teach classes and create the children's ministry curriculum.

April 2009 – June 2014

Lead Women's Apparel Designer & Communication Designer

MTC Marketing, Inc. D.B.A., "RR Designs," Dallas

Designed licensed apparel in outerwear, tops, bags and caps for all genders and age groups in NFL, NBA, MLB, NHL, and NCAA. Character licenses such as Marvel, Betty Boop, Johnny Test, Bratz, Care Bears and Strawberry Shortcake were also attained. Took all photographs and coordinated photo shoots. Prepared all advertising material from print to web. Lead all catalog preparation and production. Assisted in production coordination.

August 2006 – October 2007

Lead Fashion Designer

Couture By Alana, Inc., Dallas

Designed original ladies apparel consisting of sportswear and business wear separates. Prepared illustrations by hand and flats on Adobe Illustrator. Created patterns by hand and worked directly with owner and overseas manufacturer.

VITÆ

Professional Career

Teaching Career

Education

Affiliations

Accolades

References

August 2016 – Present

POSITIONS HELD

Assistant Professor

University of Minnesota Duluth, Department of Art & Design

Teaching undergraduate courses in graphic design and participating in department and campus service activities. Courses include typography, graphic design one and two for freshmen and sophomore standings.

January 2014 – July 2016

Graphic Design Program Lead Instructor

Brown Mackie College, Dallas/Fort Worth

Provide education through learning-centered instruction that will enable graduates to fulfill the evolving needs of the marketplace. Facilitate learning for a range of design courses including; concept development, production procedures and typography. Use learning techniques throughout art history and professional development courses. See descriptions of courses taught below.

January 2016 – May 2016

Adjunct Professor

University of North Texas - Denton, College of Visual Arts & Design

Facilitate meaningful learning of the course competencies in the curriculum and proactively supports all facets of the learning environment. Encourage a culture of learning that values mutual responsibility and respect, life-long learning, ethics as well as personal and professional development. See descriptions of courses taught below.

August 2015 – December 2015

Teaching Fellow

University of North Texas - Denton, College of Visual Arts & Design

Taught juniors and seniors how current technology is utilized in the fashion and apparel industry. See descriptions of courses taught below.

Courses Taught at the
University of Minnesota Duluth

COURSES TAUGHT

ART 4922 | Senior Design Studio I

Exploration of advanced graphic design topics through an extensive project for print and/or screen: research, creative production and development of a presentation system.

ART 4897 | Visual Culture Internship

Field research and experience working with arts programming, practice, or management in public or private agency, including the University.

ART 3933 | Graphic Design III

Continuation of theory and practice of graphic design. Graphic design as an organizational and informative medium and as a purely aesthetic pursuit.

Professional Career

Teaching Career

Education

Affiliations

Accolades

References

ART 3922.001/2/3 | Graphic Design II

The second in a sequence of graphic design courses dealing with the interaction of text and image, the fundamental components of graphic communication. I taught students standard professional practices while continuing their exposure to various theories and practices of graphic design.

ART 2907.001 | Typography I

Typography I is an introduction to the fundamentals of typography in print and screen media. In this course I presented terminology, history, and theories of letter forms. Students performed directed assignments to develop typographic skills on computer and by hand.

ART 1002.005 | Introduction to Art

Introduction to Art Studio is a course with a strong lecture component for those with little or no creative experience in art. It introduced various materials, techniques, and concepts applied in the creative making process. This course aimed to help students look, talk about and make art.

**Courses Taught at
The University of North Texas**

ADES 3575.501/2 | Computers in Fashion: Concept to Product

Taught students how current technology is utilized in the design and manufacturing of apparel and to examine ongoing developments in technology which may affect the future of the fashion and apparel industry.

ADES 3570.501/2 | Computers in Fashion: Presentation

Taught students the practical use of computers in development of apparel design, presentation formats, development of fabric groups and merchandising of a fashion line with Adobe Illustrator & Photoshop. Students created professional and creative computer-aided drawings and designs using Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop.

ADES 1540.001 | Foundations for Communication Design

Taught and demonstrated computer hardware and software and their application in communication design. This course served as preparation for acceptance into the Communication Design program through the Entry Portfolio Review.

ADES 3585.503/4 | History of Twentieth-Century Fashion

Guest Lecturer on African-American Culture in Fashion

In-depth examination of significant 20th-century designers. Development of couture in fashion and related art trends. Texas Fashion Collection used as a major resource.

Professional Career

Teaching Career

Education

Affiliations

Accolades

References

**Courses Taught at
▲Brown Mackie College**

The following list details every class that I taught during my employment at Brown Mackie College. Each class is one month long and consists of 50–60 hours. I teach anywhere between two and four classes each month.

HUM 3020 | History of Art Through the Modern Times▲

Engaged students in the concepts, historical themes and social/cultural influences on the art and architecture of the history of art from the Renaissance to the Modern period. Students analyzed the design and artistic concepts common to all artwork, and covered the external themes and influences that shaped art at various points in history and across cultures that provide us with a window into those cultures.

HUM 3010 | History of Art Through the Middle Ages▲

Students analyzed the design and artistic concepts common to all artwork in the history of art from the prehistoric/tribal period through the Middle Ages. Students covered the external themes and influences that shaped art at various points in history and across cultures.

DSN 2900 | Graphic Design Externship▲

Students were assigned to work in a professional environment appropriate for the application of skills learned in the curriculum, thus gaining practical experience in the skills acquired.

DSN 2600 | Concept Development▲

This course emphasized the conceptualization processes of art and design in solving given problems. The students used creative problem-solving and research techniques, specifically problem identification, analysis, brainstorming, and idea refinement to create portfolio-quality projects.

DSN 2500 | Advanced Web Design▲

Students explored advanced principles of design as they are applied to the creation of content for the World Wide Web. Individual elements such as; hyper text mark-up language (HTML) and cascading style sheets (CSS), the creation of graphics for the web and the creation of animated graphic for inclusion in websites were explored as well as how such elements would be combined to create a finished web site.

DSN 2400 | Advanced Digital Illustration▲

Students produced computer-generated compositions as related to advertising, design, and illustration.

DSN 2300 | Advanced Electronic Design▲

This course explored advanced techniques in placing and manipulating visual elements in page design. The ability to effectively manipulate existing photographs, illustrations, display, and type were developed. New skills involving use of color, typography, and new graphic elements created in the page layout program itself were also instilled.

Professional Career

Teaching Career

Education

Affiliations

Accolades

References

DSN 2200 | Advanced Digital Image Manipulation▲

Students furthered the skills acquired in previous image manipulation and technology based classes. Emphasis was placed on advanced applications and the identification of the best solution for an assigned task. Integration of programs to achieve a product was also emphasized.

DSN 2100 | Production Procedures▲

This course was a study of the history of printing, printing processes, pre-press, post-press, and paper. The student were expected to achieve an understanding of the various processes by preparing designs for reproduction relative to each week's subject.

DSN 1500 | Web Design▲

This course explored the basic principles of design as they are applied to the creation content for the Web. Individual elements such as; graphics for the web, the creating of hyper links, the structure and layout of web sites and the creation of individual web pages were explored both individually and as a larger part of the creation of an entire web site.

DSN 1400 | Digital Illustration▲

Students produced computer-generated compositions in Adobe Illustrator as related to the advertising, design, and illustration artist.

DSN 1300 | Electronic Design▲

This course explored various means of indicating, placing and manipulating visual elements in page design, while systematically developing strong and creative layout solutions by means of cumulative, conceptual design process. The ability to effectively integrate photographs, illustrations, display, and type were developed using Adobe InDesign.

DSN 1200 | Digital Image Manipulation▲

This course explored photo retouching, image manipulation, and the creation of original artwork using Adobe Photoshop. Compositing, color adjustment, and effects through the use of filters was stressed.

DSN 1170 | Typography▲

An introduction to the history, evolution and application of typography for the perception of meaning, intention and personality of the written word.

DSN 1150 | Fundamentals of Design▲

This course explored the basic principles of design and introduced the creative process. Design elements and relationships were identified and employed to establish a basis for aesthetic sensitivity and critical analysis. Design was presented as a tool of communication.

Professional Career

Teaching Career

Education

Affiliations

Accolades

References

DSN 1000 | Drawing▲

This was a fundamental course in which students explored various art and media, used a variety of drawing tools, used 3-dimensional objects in one- and two-point perspective and generated drawings that demonstrated correct proportions.

PSS 1100 | Professional Development▲

This course stressed the importance of the development of skills for collegiate success including; use of texts, studying, note taking, and success in tests. The course also emphasized professional expectations, communication skills, technology, time management, problem solving, and effective and ethical use of resources.

While I assign a variety of projects to help students use creative and critical thought as emerging designers, the projects that have the most positive impact for my students are ones that engage them in the community. The projects help them learn how to not just design, but design for good with a social and environmental justice lens.

PROJECTS ASSIGNED

Duluth Disparities Project

This was a project assigned during my ART 3922 Graphic Design II class. Students were challenged to answer the question: “How can design solve STEEP (social, technological, economic, environmental, and political) disparities for marginalized populations in Duluth communities?” This allowed students to recognize community disparities within Duluth and use design to help solve problems for the people.

Community Youth Storytelling

This was a project assigned during my ART 3922 Graphic Design II class. Students were given the opportunity to work with youth from the Neighborhood Youth Services (NYS) program located at the Washington Center to illustrate and design a book based on the story written by the youth. The youth in the NYS program are from underrepresented communities and their stories showed their experiences and perspectives.

Code of Ethics

This was a project assigned during my ART 2911 Graphic Design I class. This project focuses on a simple statement; “designers need to take responsibility for the decisions they make and be conscientious members of both the design community and the wider human community.” This project involves a fair amount of introspection as students decide what they stand for and against. Students should create their posters with the mindset that their design is a “living” document and will change over time as they gain experiences in the design industry and broader community.

Professional Career

Teaching Career

Education

Affiliations

Accolades

References

The Movement Imprinted Poster Exhibition

This was a project assigned during my ART 2911 Graphic Design I class. Each year is a different theme that focuses on the Black experience, whether that be 'Faces of Change' Black Activists or 'Music of the Revolution' Songs about the Black Experience. Students are assigned the subject and are challenged to design a poster in the style of an assigned Black Graphic Designer. Along with the poster, students create a booklet of information that goes with each piece they create. Both are then sold at auction where students receive up to 50% of the bid price.

VITÆ

Professional Career

Teaching Career

Education

Affiliations

Accolades

References

August 2013 – December 2015

DEGREES EARNED

M.F.A. in Design Research, Minor in Anthropology

University of North Texas, Denton

Major Professor: Michael Gibson, Minor Professor: Keith Owens

Thesis Topic: Project Naptural

I am studying how naturally afro-textured hair affects the self identity of Black women and how or in what ways design may assist in disseminating information and building community to provide allowances for Black women as they wear their hair without chemical relaxers and in turn empower them to make healthier life choices. www.projectnaptural.com

August 2003 – May 2008

B.F.A. in Fashion Design, Minor in African American Studies

University of North Texas, Denton

GRADUATE COURSES TAKEN

Fall 2015

Practicum in Innovation Studies III
Special Problems: Practicum in Innovation Studies
Art History: Suffering in Art

Summer 2015

Guided Teaching Internship
University Citizenship and Tenure in Design

Spring 2015

Applied Design Research III
Art History: History of Communication Design
Critical Thinking
Practicum in Innovation Studies II
Design Pedagogy

Fall 2014

Practicum in Innovation Studies I
Applied Design Research II
Art History: Refugees as makers and Representations of Art
Interaction Design Special Problems

Summer 2014

Applied Design Research I
Anthropology: Seminar in Cultural Anthropology

Spring 2014

Collaborative Design Studio
Anthropology: Ethnographic & Qualitative Methods
Anthropology: Organizational Anthropology

Fall 2013

Design Research Methods
Design Research Theory
Typography Special Problems

VITÆ

Professional Career

Teaching Career

Education

Affiliations

Accolades

References

June 2018 – Present

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS & COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

Clayton Jackson McGhie Memorial Committee, Inc. (CJMM)

A non-profit organization focused on racial justice through the education of the Duluth lynchings in the schools and community.

September 2016 – Present

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)

An African-American civil rights organization in the United States in which I serve on the executive committee for the Duluth Branch.

September 2015 – Present

American Institute of Graphic Arts (AIGA)

The professional association for design, the exchange ideas and information, and critical analysis. I serve the Minnesota chapter, the third largest chapter of 72 chapters in the organization, as the Director of Diversity & Inclusion.

September 2015 – Present

Design Research Society (DRS)

A learned society committed to promoting and developing design research.

September 2015 – Present

Alpha Chi National College Honor Society (AX)

A national honor society that accepts only the top 10 percent of juniors, seniors, and graduate students in all academic fields and that recognizes and promotes scholarship and the elements of character that make scholarship effective for good.

April 2007 – Present

Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. (ΣΓΡ)

A service organization that enhances the quality of life for women and their families through community service, civil, and social action.

November 2018

UMD CAMPUS SERVICE

'Paint Against Hate' Trans+ Healing Event

I worked with the Office of Diversity & Inclusion to provide a healing art space and allow attendees to leave the event with something to post in their receptive spaces that speaks to the empowerment of trans+ people.

August 2018 – Present

SFA Open Studio Co-Chair Committee

This community-focused event includes educational art activities in studio, art history, and design.

August 2018–Present

UMD QTIPOC Co-Advisor

The Queer, Trans, Indigenous/Intersex, People of Color Collective (QTIPOCC) is a group dedicated to giving a space and a voice to students of color, identifying as a shade of LGBTQIA+ at the University of Minnesota Duluth and in the Duluth Community. This is a group that will provide a space for folks of color, allow for discussion and critical thinking on the (systems of) oppression they may face, and focus on intersectionality as it shapes and influences our identities.

Professional Career

Teaching Career

Education

Affiliations

Accolades

References

August 2018–Present

Campus Climate Leadership Team

October 2017

UMD UROP Poster Entry

Guided student in the creation of the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program poster and t-shirt design.

October 2017–January 2018

UMD Freedom Steppers Advisor

September 2017–January 2017

UMD SFA Faculty Exhibit

September 2017

UMD School of Fine Arts (SFA) Goal Committee

September 2017 – February 2017

UMD SFA Faculty Exhibition Committee

Bi-annual exhibition showcasing the SFA Faculty work. I helped plan the event, designed the booklet, and created some branded collateral.

January 2017 – Present

UMD NAACP Student Chapter Advisor

January 2017 – Present

School of Fine Arts Campus Climate Change Team, Co-Chair

A council made up of faculty and staff from the School of Fine Arts that identifies and develops “promising practices” in efforts to create a welcoming and inclusive campus climate at a unit level (unit, department, collegiate unit) or to recommend promising practices to the Campus Change Team.

November 2016 – Present

Employees of Color Council

A council made up of faculty and staff from diverse backgrounds that coordinates spaces, events and mentoring programs for faculty, staff, and students of color.

November 2018

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Social Justice Social Chair

The Duluth NAACP’s Young Adult Committee, has been charged with reaching younger audiences for our organization and social justice movements. The Social Justice Social offers space for young adults to network with organizations throughout the Twin Ports who are working towards social justice.

August 2018 – Present

Organizing Policy for Duluth Police Department Riot Gear

August 2018

Social Justice Social Chair

March 2018 – May 2018

Project Naptural Workshops, Facilitator

The Project Naptural Workshops consist of tutorials, discussions, journaling, & product-making for kinky and curly haired female-identified folks.

Professional Career

Teaching Career

Education

Affiliations

Accolades

References

September 2017 – February 2018

Freedom Fund Dinner Committee Chair

September 2017 – January 2018

MLK Planning Committee, March/Rally Subcommittee Chair

The MLK Rally (with an audience of 800+ community members) serves as a platform for community togetherness and encouragement for the community to continue fighting for social justice in the community. The rally included children's activities, vendors, giveaways, a regionally known keynote speaker, and a variety of performances.

September 2017

Hillfest Event Poster Making Coordinator

May 2017 – October 2017

Design Challenge at AIGA Conference

I helped to plan the AIGA National Conference's Community Engagement event, the Design Challenge. I also mentored youth through the process of design at the Elementary School where the event took place.

November 2018

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

**Ableism & Disability Justice
University of Minnesota, Duluth**

November 2018

**Trans(Gender) Justice Teach-In
University of Minnesota, Duluth**

October 2018

**Intercultural Development Inventory Conference
Minneapolis, Minnesota**

October 2018

**Joe Duffy Talk & Exhibition,
Concordia University**

October 2018

**Intercultural Development Inventory Qualifying Seminar
Minneapolis, Minnesota**

September 2018

**Decipher
University of Michigan**

September 2018

**Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless
Duluth, Minnesota**

September 2018

**bushCONNECT 2018
Minneapolis, Minnesota**

August 2018

**Design + Diversity Conference
St. Louis, Missouri**

Professional Career

Teaching Career

Education

Affiliations

Accolades

References

July 2018	Hue Design Summit <i>Atlanta, Georgia</i>
May 2018	National Conference on Race and Ethnicity (NCORE) <i>New Orleans, Louisiana</i>
April 2018	Queer and Trans Indigenous People of Color Conference <i>Minneapolis, Minnesota</i>
March 2018	Design for Inclusivity AIGA D&I Members Training <i>Fayetteville, Arkansas</i>
January 2018	Transgender 101 <i>University of Minnesota, Duluth</i>
January 2018	Engaging Inclusive Design Concepts to Increase Access <i>University of Minnesota, Duluth</i>
November 2017	Trans(Gender) Justice Teach-In <i>University of Minnesota, Duluth</i>
November 2017	Leadership in the Context of Equity and Diversity <i>University of Minnesota, Duluth</i>
October 2017	AIGA National Conference <i>Minneapolis, Minnesota</i>
September 2017	LGBTQIA Identities and Communities <i>University of Minnesota, Duluth</i>
September 2017	A Call to Men Conference <i>Minneapolis, Minnesota</i>
June 2017	AIGA Leadership Conference <i>Dallas, Texas</i>
March 2017	Identifying and Challenging Implicit Bias in Staff Searches <i>University of Minnesota, Duluth</i>

VITÆ

Professional Career
Teaching Career
Education
Affiliations
Accolades
References

AWARDS & GRANTS

November 2018 \$1,000	Chancellor's Faculty Small Grant University of Minnesota Duluth
October 2018	Regional Design Awards for 'Heart Strings' Print Magazine
October 2018	Women of Distinction Awards YWCA Duluth
August 2018	20 Under 40 Award Duluth News Tribune
May 2018	The Community Empowerment Awards <i>Outstanding Achievement in Academic Equality</i> Superior African Heritage Community
May 2018	32 Under 32, The New Originals Nomination The Advertising Federation of Minnesota
April 2018 \$1,500	Northland Foundation Grant Funds provided for Project Naptural Symposium
February 2018 \$10,000	Imagine Fund Special Event Award Funds provided for Project Naptural Workshops & Symposium
January 2017	Drum Major for Peace Award <i>Duluth NAACP</i> Twin Port's region exemplifying education equity, racial equity, community service, peace, and/or justice in their life and work.
October 2016 \$1,000	Chancellor's Faculty Small Grant University of Minnesota Duluth
December 2015	Magna Cum Laude <i>University of North Texas</i> 3.95 GPA
December 2015	Community Service Recognition <i>University of North Texas</i> 500+ hours of community service involvement.

Professional Career

Teaching Career

Education

Affiliations

Accolades

References

Fall 2015

\$850

**College of Visual Arts & Design Student Conference Award Fund
University of North Texas**

Funds provided for conferences, presentations, research opportunities, and internships (among other possibilities) that enrich the education and opportunities of CVAD students.

Fall 2015 – Spring 2016

\$5,000

**Tuition Benefit Award Program
University of North Texas**

A tuition award for salaried MFA students who maintain at least a 3.0 GPA.

Spring 2015

\$300

**College of Visual Arts & Design Student Project Award Fund
University of North Texas**

Funds provided for projects (including materials), study abroad, conferences, presentations, research opportunities, and internships (among other possibilities) that enrich the education and opportunities of CVAD students.

EXHIBITIONS

November 2018

Project Natural, 13 pieces show

Purdue Black Cultural Center, West Lafayette, Indiana

September 2018

The 2018 Natural Hair Symposium, 50 pieces shown

Project Naptural, Gelevation, & The Future is Afro

July 2018

NEXUS

Six pieces total shown. 3 pieces, "The Future is Afro" 001-003 are inspired by the beginning and the future of earth. 3 pieces, "Gelevation" 001-003 are inspired by formal West African traditional Gele headwraps with a futuristic twist.

March 2018

AICHO's "Phenomenal Woman Art Show," 2 pieces shown

2 pieces from my 'Excuse Me Ladies' Series

March 2018

**"WTF (What the Feminist) Artist Exhibition," 3 pieces shown
Hosted by Feminist Action Collective at the Washington Art Galleries
in Duluth Minnesota**

This three-part series was inspired by my speech at the 2018 Women's March. Each poster represents a part of my speech, "So excuse me if I side-eye your White feminism, or back-hand your White privilege to touch my hair, ... or roll my eyes at your ability to say thank you without investing in what I do..."

Professional Career

Teaching Career

Education

Affiliations

Accolades

References

- February 2018** **The Life, The Work, The Fight: Black Duluth in History**
Hosted by the Clayton Jackson McGhie Memorial Committee in partnership with the Minnesota Historical Society and the Lloyd K. Johnson Foundation at the Zeitgeist in Duluth, Minnesota
I designed this exhibition that showcases the stories and history of Black Duluthians. The project combines excerpts of recent oral histories of African American elders in Duluth with historical roles dating back to the late 19th Century to show the depth and complexity of intertwining histories.
- February 2018** **"Fine, Refine, Define Faculty Art Show," 3 pieces shown**
Hosted by the School of Fine Arts at the Tweed Museum of Art
'My Experience Series': 'Heart Strings' addresses my frustrations with folks who feel they have a right to my hair, my body, my Blackness, and my identity. It is a reflection of my experiences as a Black woman in a White world with Euro-centric beauty standards. I created 'Family Photo' as a way to validate my own history and racial identity, often forgotten in society. My African culture and heritage were stripped from my ancestry by way of slavery now being written in our history books as "indentured servitude." The illustrations in 'Counterfeit' highlight the traits that I, as a Black woman, possess. These traits are often seen as unruly, barbaric, exotic, and overly-sexual — except when applied to someone with white skin.
- June 2017** **Project Naptural Exhibition & Symposium, 30+ pieces shown**
Zeitgeist in Duluth Minnesota
- May 2017** **Design Impact Series Show, 2 pieces shown**
Hosted by AIGA Minnesota at the Saint Paul Neighborhood Network
2 pieces from 'My Experience Series': 'Heart Strings' & 'Family Photo'
- February 2016** **Project Naptural Exhibition & Symposium, 18 pieces shown**
UNT's Union Art Gallery in Denton Texas
I illustrated these posters with elements of anonymity, same skin tone, no facial features, feathers and leaves as hair texture, in hopes that every Black woman could see themselves in the illustrations. I added the title of the hairstyle, including quotes from my interviewees, and data which I compiled after interviews, focus groups, surveys, and graffiti walls.

Professional Career
Teaching Career
Education
Affiliations
Accolades
References

November 2018

20+ Audience

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS & SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Project Natural & Research-Based Design Workshop
Purdue Black Cultural Center, West Lafayette, Indiana

This two-hour workshop showcased the design research process in action as participants explored "Project Naptural," A Socio-Cultural Initiative for 'Naptural' Living. This workshop not only allowed for discussion on the impacts of the project but left room for participants to explore how they could design solutions to help solve design challenges related to marginalized identities.

November 2018

35+ Audience

Racism Untaught Workshop
University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign

I guided a 'Racism Untaught' workshop with Lisa Mercer on how design professors can utilize design research to critically assess anti-racist concepts and solve 'racialized' design problems within project-based learning environments.

November 2018

15+ Audience

Art Educators of Minnesota Conference
St. Cloud, Minnesota

I guided a 'Racism Untaught' workshop on how design professors can utilize design research to critically assess anti-racist concepts and solve 'racialized' design problems within project-based learning environments.

October 2018

60+ Audience

Design Camp: Inside Out
Brainerd, Minnesota

"Thus all Art is propaganda and ever must be[...]. I do not care a damn for any art that is not used for propaganda. But I do care when propaganda is confined to one side while the other is stripped and silent." –W.E.B. DuBois During this workshop, I critiqued the branding of various social justice movements and how their visual messaging impacted (and still impacts) both positive and negative social change. Participants then collaborate with each other using the design research process to create their own campaigns around these concepts and exploring equity and representation using design.

September 2018

25+ Audience

Decipher
University of Michigan

I co-presented with Lisa Mercer on Racism Untaught.

September 2018

60+ Audience

Inclusive by Design Panel
Downtown Ann Arbor District Library, Michigan

June 2018

100+ Audience

Celebration of Community Peacemakers
Keynote Speaker

May 2018

500+ Audience

Project Naptural Poster Presentation
National Conference on Race and Ethnicity in Higher Education in New Orleans, Louisiana

Professional Career

Teaching Career

Education

Affiliations

Accolades

References

- May 2018**
50+ Audience
- Inclusive Pedagogy Panel**
University of Minnesota - Duluth
I presented about my inclusive practices/projects in the classroom.
- April 2018**
100+ Audience
- Design Critic, Lecturer, and Research Reviewer**
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
I presented on using design research methods in my work with marginalized communities and in my classroom. I touched on how these same concepts are applied to my socially conscious design studio, Blackbird Revolt, as a way to use communication design to effect social change. I also reviewed and provided feedback to MFA and PhD Candidate Dissertations.
- March 2018**
40+ Audience
- Speaking of Home Tour & Panel**
Saint Paul, Minnesota
I facilitated the panel discussion for the folks featured in this immigrant storytelling exhibition and installation.
- February 2018**
40+ Audience
- (Un)taught: Learning to Design in a Socially Conscious Way**
University of Minnesota - Duluth's Summit on Race & Ethnicity
- January 2018**
25+ Audience
- Using Design to Create an Inclusive & Supportive Workplace**
University of Wisconsin - Superior's Leadership Conference
When folks feel an inability to identify as themselves at work, it negatively affects how they engage in the space as a teammate. You, as a leader, can directly affect positive change by initiating more inclusive behavior. This workshop will help you identify ways in which your workplace culture may be closed and how design and prototyping can help you and your colleagues create a more inclusive and supportive work environment.
- January 2018**
700+ Audience
- Women's March, Keynote Speaker**
Hosted by Feminist Action Collective in Duluth, Minnesota
- December 2017**
250+ Audience
- Guest Design Lecturer**
UNT SVAD's Intro to Communication Design Class
- November 2017**
200+ Audience
- Project Naptural Poster Presentation**
U. of Minnesota's Office of Equity & Diversity's Gallery of Excellence
- September 2017**
35+ Audience
- Women in the Arts Panelist**
FeMNFest Panel in Duluth, Minnesota

Professional Career
Teaching Career
Education
Affiliations
Accolades
References

September 2017
20+ Audience

Design(ing) for Social Justice
FeMNFest Workshop in Duluth, Minnesota

During the workshop, I explored the use of poster-making for social justice. I looked to the powerful use of imagery, text, and color to create effective communicative work that can often speak louder and longer than traditional verbal communication.

August 2017
100+ Audience

Design Impact Artists Panel
MiA in Minneapolis, Minnesota

I spoke on a panel about the Design Impact Series and the role of People of Color in the creative fields.

July 2017
180+ Audience

Project Naptural's Natural Hair Symposium
Zeitgeist in Duluth, Minnesota

March 2017
80+ Audience

"Through a Lens Darkly " Film Series Discussion Facilitator
Zeitgeist in Duluth, Minnesota

February 2017
50+ Audience

Racism Untaught Presentation
University of Minnesota - Duluth's Summit on Race & Ethnicity

Presented on racism in graphic design and how these elements perpetuate systemic racism.

February 2017
Audience of 200+ people.

Project Naptural
Oklahoma State University - Stillwater, Oklahoma

I presented on the methods and theories used to create Project Naptural. I also hosted workshops to help students use these same processes within their design work.

November 2016
30+ Audience

Racism in Graphic Design
Art Educators of Minnesota - St. Paul, Minnesota

This was a presentation given with a colleague, John O'Neill, entitled "Racism Untaught." It asked how racism and stereotypes within mass media shape behaviors and how racism, a systemic oppression that isn't taught in a classroom, can be un-taught in our classrooms today.

June 2016

COINs 2016 - Designing Networks for Innovation and Improvisation
National Research Council - Rome, Italy

Project Naptural: The Nap Network 1.0 artifacts were accepted to be presented at this conference.

Professional Career

Teaching Career

Education

Affiliations

Accolades

References

February 2016

60+ Audience

**El Significado de la Negritud II – The Meaning of Blackness II
*The Universidad de Costa Rica in San José Costa Rica***

The Meaning of Blackness asks questions about the “ideological shield that prevents an understanding and acceptance of diversity as a natural component of our societies.” Project Naptural has similar questions as it uncovers the ways in which Black women have formed their knowledge and understanding about their naturally afro-textured hair. Bringing validity to the goals of Project Naptural, will help to empower the Natural Hair Movement, empowering Black women to feel comfortable to make healthy and well-informed life style choices concerning their hair to empower them and help them to signify belonging within mainstream society.

July 2015

25+ Audience

**Nappy and Happy
*Natural to Life Natural Hair Show, Dallas***

I was given the opportunity to speak about my thesis project and ways to build oneness in the natural hair community. I also went into details about the health benefits of natural hair and side effects of chemical relaxers.

November 2014

65+ Audience

**How to Love the Naptural You
*Nappiology Expo, Grapevine***

Attendees learned new ways to become enlightened and empowered while wearing their hair napturally–on good and bad hair days– through facts, opinions, activities and shared experiences.

December 2018

PUBLISHINGS

Decipher Conference Proceedings

March 2016

Breaking Down & Building Up Beauty Standards

This is an article I was requested to write that analyzed societal norms and Euro-centric beauty standards. Full article located here: postcoloniality.com/breaking-down-building-up-beauty-standards

July 2018

MEDIA MENTIONS

**WPR's People of Color Radio
*"The Natural Hair Symposium"***

February 2018

**The Bark at UMD
*"Graphic Design Students Auction Art to Benefit NAACP"***

thebarkumd.com/news/2018/2/27/umd-graphic-design-students-auction-art-to-benefit-naacp

Professional Career

Teaching Career

Education

Affiliations

Accolades

References

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- February 2018** **WPR's People of Color Radio**
"Freedom Fund Dinner Banquet"
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- February 2018** **UMD News**
"Amplifying the Message"
news.d.umn.edu/news-center/news/graphic-design-students-and-naacp
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- January 2018** **FOX21**
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- January 2018** **FOX21**
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- January 2018** **WPR's People of Color Radio**
"2018 MLK Events"
- November 2016** **KBJR6**
"Cross-Cultural Alliance Hosts Community Forum"
kbjr6.com/story/33709353/cross-cultural-alliance-hosts-community-forum
- February 2016** **The Denton Chronicle**
"Back to the Roots"
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Professional Career

Teaching Career

Education

Affiliations

Accolades

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<http://www.ucr.ac.cr/noticias/2016/02/16/el-significado-de-la-negritud-se-analiza-en-la-ucr.html>
- March 2016** **The University of North Texas In House News**
"UNT Graduate Researches African American Women and Their Hair – and Hopes to Use that Information for an App"
<http://news.unt.edu/news-releases/unt-graduate-researches-african-american-women-and-their-hair-%E2%80%93-and-hopes-use-informat>
- March 2016** **The North Texas Daily**
"The Creation of Project Naptural and True 'Hairitage'"
<http://ntdaily.com/the-creation-of-project-naptural-and-true-hairitage/>
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- March 2016** **NBCDFW.com**
Graduate's Research Leads to Natural Hair Platform
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Professional Career

Teaching Career

Education

Affiliations

Accolades

References

Michael Gibson

Associate Professor, Communication Design

Graduate Programs Coordinator, Design Research
University of North Texas- Denton, College of Visual Arts & Design
1201 W Mulberry St, Denton, TX 76201
michael.gibson@unt.edu

Keith Owens

Associate Professor, Communication Design + Design Research

University of North Texas- Denton, College of Visual Arts & Design
1201 W Mulberry St, Denton, TX 76201
k.owens@unt.edu

Janie Stidham

Associate Professor, Fashion Design Program Coordinator

University of North Texas- Denton, College of Visual Arts & Design
1201 W Mulberry St, Denton, TX 76201
Janie.Stidham@unt.edu

Katherine Trostle

Director of Faculty Management

Brown Mackie College, Dallas/Fort Worth
2200 Hwy 121 #250, Bedford, TX 76021
ktrostle@brownmackie.edu

Dr. Tina Opie

Assistant Professor

Babson College, Management Division
231 Forest Street Babson Park, MA 02457-0310
topie@babson.edu